

9 (amended). The alternator of claim 1, wherein the poles have circumferential faces and lateral faces each uninterrupted from one to the other of the circumferential faces and inclined towards [REDACTED] a shaft of the alternator.

10 (amended). The alternator of claim 11 [REDACTED] wherein the magnet has a rectangular profile perpendicularly to a longitudinal direction of the magnet.

14 (amended). The alternator of claim 13, wherein [REDACTED] each of the magnets [REDACTED] comprise at least two separate parts. *Nothing new*

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

1. Status of the Pending Claims and Explanation of Amendment

Claims 1 through 14 are pending. Claim 10 was object to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim should refer to other claim in the alternative only. Claims 3-4, 9-10 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 6-7, 9 and 13-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Asao et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,903,084).

Claims 2, 8 and 10-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asao et al. in view of Ishikawa (EP 0 762 617 A1).

Claim 5 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim – but would be allowable if rewritten into independent form.

In The Claims:

12. (amended) An alternator for a vehicle, including two magnet wheels comprising poles in the form of interlaced claws and at least one magnet interposed between the poles,

wherein the magnet extends between lateral faces of the associated poles and comprises two separate parts fixed to one another by a layer of material which is more flexible than the magnet, and

wherein the magnet is bonded to at least one of the poles by means of an adhesive identical to the said material.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

A. Status Of The Pending Claims
And Explanation of Amendments

Claims 1-14 are pending and are rejected. Claims 1, 3-5, 10 and 13-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by German Patent No. DE 19802786A1 to Lechner ("Lechner"). Claims 2 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lechner. Claims 6-9 and 11 were rejected 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lechner in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,903,084 to Asao et al. ("Asao").

Claim 12 has been amended into independent form to recite the elements of claim

1. Entry of these amendments is requested pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.116(b) as placing this claim in better form for appeal.

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cancel
19. (new) The rotor of claim 18, wherein the means for absorbing is a layer of flexible material that extends along a median plane of the magnet.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 was amended. New claims 15-19 have been added to further define other aspects of the present invention.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite, inter alia, "wherein at least one of the magnets comprises two separate parts fixed to one another by a layer of material which is more flexible than the magnet." New claim 15 recites, inter alia, "a plurality of magnets extending between and contacting the lateral faces of adjacent poles." New claim 16 recites "wherein each of the magnets further comprises a flexible plate adhesively fixed to an outer circumferential face of the magnet." New claim 17 recites "wherein each of the magnets further comprises a flexible plate adhesively fixed to inner circumferential face of the magnet." Support for these claim elements is provided throughout the specification and in particular at Figures 2-5.

Claim 18 recites, inter alia, "wherein the magnets further comprise means for absorbing relative movement of each of the poles." Claim 19 recites "wherein the means for absorbing is a layer of flexible material that extends along a median plane of the magnet." Support for these claim elements is found throughout the specification and in particular at Figures 2-5 and page 2.

No new matter was added by these amendments.